

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	
	:	Honorable Joseph H. Rodriguez
v.	:	
	:	Criminal No. 21-524 (JHR)
JOHN GRIER, III	:	

WRITTEN JUROR QUESTIONNAIRE

Juror No. _____

JURY QUESTIONNAIRE

United States v. John Grier, III – Criminal No. 21-524 (JHR)

Instructions:

You are being considered for jury service in a criminal case involving charges against defendant John Grier. The indictment in this matter (“the Indictment”) charges the Defendant, John Grier, with the following offenses:

- deprivation of rights under color of law
- falsification of records in a federal investigation

The Government alleges that John Grier, III committed the criminal offenses listed above by using mechanical force (Oleoresin Capsicum (“OC”) spray, also referred to as “mace” or “pepper spray”) on a victim who was in handcuffs and under the control of another police officer without cause, and assaulting the victim by shoving him in the chest. The Government also alleges that John Grier authored and submitted a fraudulent Bridgeton Police Department Supplemental Police Report to falsely justify the use of force against the victim and obstruct any investigation into the incident.

It is important to remember that the Defendant has denied these charges and pleaded not guilty. The Defendant, like all defendants in this country, is presumed to be innocent of all charges made against him unless and until the Government proves his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. Furthermore, it is the law of this country that no defendant needs to testify at trial.

The Court has decided to submit certain questions to you in the form of a questionnaire, rather than asking you these questions in open court. The questions are designed only to aid the Court and the lawyers in selecting a fair and impartial jury and not to pry unnecessarily into your personal life. Your answers must be true and complete and will be used only for purposes of selecting a jury in this action.

Do not discuss the questions or answers to these questions with your fellow jurors—it is very important that your answers be your own individual answers. Do not discuss this case with any of your fellow jurors or with anyone else. That means that you should not talk about this case with your friends, family, and co-workers; nor should you communicate about this case through social media, such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Snapchat, Tumblr, Instagram, or any other communication source. Do not read anything about the case, watch anything on television about the case, or listen to anything on the radio about the case should it be covered by any media. Do not conduct any research about this case or the participants in this trial, including through the use of the internet. What you learn about the case you will learn in Court only.

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Where indicated, check the line for “Yes” or “No.” Provide answers, explanations, or details in the spaces provided. If you need additional space to answer any of the question, use the last page of the questionnaire, and state the question number. Do not write on the back of any page.

I. BACKGROUND

1. Name: _____
2. Age: _____
3. Gender: _____
4. Place of birth: _____
5. County of residence: _____
6. Your town or neighborhood: _____
7. Which of the following applies to your primary residence?
☐ Own ☐ Rent ☐ Live in parents'/family home ☐ Other
8. Prior to your current residence, where did you live: _____
9. What is your current employment status?
☐ Working full-time
☐ Working part-time
☐ Unemployed
☐ Homemaker
☐ Retired
☐ Disabled
☐ Student
10. If employed, what is your primary occupation or employment? _____

11. What is the name of your employer? _____

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12. How long have you worked for that employer or been in that occupation? _____

13. What are your job responsibilities? _____

14. Please list any other jobs you have held in the past 10 years: _____

15. Please indicate your level of education (check all that apply)

☐ Did not graduate from high school (highest grade completed: _____)

☐ High school diploma or GED

☐ Vocational or trade school

☐ Some college classes

☐ Two-year (Associate) degree

☐ College graduate (Bachelor degree)

☐ Some graduate school

☐ Graduate degree

16. If you attended school beyond high school (college, graduate school, technical education),
what school did you attend and what did you study? _____

17. Have you ever served in the military? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES:

a. When? _____

b. In what branch did you serve? _____

c. What was your rank? _____

d. Were you honorably discharged? _____ YES _____ NO

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18. Are you married, living with a partner, or in a relationship? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please answer:

- a. What is their name? _____
- b. What is his/her primary occupation or employment? _____
- c. What is the name of his/her employer? _____
- d. How long has he/she worked for that employer or been in that occupation? _____

- e. What are his/her job responsibilities? _____

19. Do you have any children? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please provide the number of children you have, their ages, schools, and/or
employers: _____

20. Are you now, or have you recently been, under a doctor's care for mental, emotional, or
substance abuse problems? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

21. Are you now taking, or do you anticipate taking, any medication that might in any way affect
your attention or your ability to concentrate, understand, consider, and weigh the evidence in
this case? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

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22. Do you have any difficulty with your sight or hearing that could affect your perception of the proceedings? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

23. Do you have any religious, philosophical, or other beliefs that would make you unable to render a verdict for reasons unrelated to the law or evidence? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

24. It is expected that this trial will require approximately 1-2 weeks to complete, although one can never be precise as to how long a trial will take. The Court recognizes that jury service for this period of time places a burden on those called to serve as jurors. Nonetheless, the right to a jury trial is an important constitutional right that does require the Court to call upon citizens such as yourselves to make personal sacrifice. Bearing in mind the importance of a trial by jury, do any of you have any reason why you feel that jury service for this period of time would pose a particularly severe burden requiring that you be excused from consideration as a juror?

If YES, please explain: _____

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25. Please list any civic, social, religious, political, or professional organizations, clubs, or associations to which you belong or volunteer your time: _____

26. What are your hobbies or interests outside of work and family? _____

27. Please provide the names of any newspapers, magazine, online news services, websites, or other publications that you read regularly: _____

28. Please provide the names of any radio, television, or internet programs, including podcasts, that you listen to or view regularly: _____

29. Do you regularly watch, listen to, or read legal dramas/thrillers? _____ YES _____ NO

General Background

30. An indictment is a document that charges an individual with a crime after having been considered by a federal grand jury. An indictment is the means by which the Government gives him notice of the charges against him and brings him before the Court. An indictment is an accusation, and nothing more. An indictment is not evidence and the jury may give it no weight in arriving at its verdict. Will you accept and apply this rule of law?

_____ YES _____ NO

Juror No. _____

If NO, please explain: _____

31. The indictment in this matter (“the Indictment”) charges the Defendant, John Grier, with violating an individual’s Constitutional Rights and falsifying records in a federal investigation as a police officer with the City of Bridgeton Police Department. Do you have any reason to believe that the charges in this case that I have just described to you will affect your ability to fairly and impartially evaluate the evidence and apply the law?

_____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

Presumption of Innocence and Impartiality

32. The Defendant is presumed innocent. He cannot be convicted unless the jury, unanimously and based solely on the evidence in this case and the law as the Court instructs, decides his guilt has been proven beyond a reasonable doubt. The burden of proving the guilt rests entirely with the Government. The Defendant has no burden of proof at all. Will you accept and apply this rule of law? _____ YES _____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

33. Can you accept that the Defendant is at this moment presumed to be innocent of any and all crimes charged in the Indictment and that he is presumed to be innocent of these charges throughout the course of the trial? _____ YES _____ NO

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If NO, please explain: _____

34. Under the law, a defendant need not testify or offer any evidence on his or her behalf. If a defendant does neither, the jury is not permitted to consider that fact in any way in reaching a decision as to whether a defendant is guilty or not guilty. Will you accept and apply this rule of law? _____ YES _____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

35. Do you understand that although each side may put forth evidence that they believe supports why something happened; the Government retains the burden of proving the Defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, it is for the jury to determine if a criminal offense happened and not why it happened? _____ YES _____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

36. If you are selected to sit as a juror on this case, would you be willing and able to render a verdict based solely on the facts, exhibits, and documents in evidence, and the law as the Court will give it to you in its instructions, disregarding any other ideas, notions, or beliefs about the law that you previously may have encountered? _____ YES _____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

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37. The law does not permit you to consider any emotions such as sympathy, prejudice, vengeance, fear, or hostility in reaching your verdict. Can you put these emotions out of your mind when you listen to the evidence in this case and while you are deliberating toward reaching a verdict? _____ YES _____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

38. The law does not permit you to consider the issue of sentencing or punishment in reaching your verdict. Do you feel that you would be able to deliberate as a juror on the Defendant's guilt or non-guilt without knowing what punishment he might receive if he was found guilty? _____ YES _____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

39. Can you render a verdict, whether guilty or not, without considering the question of punishment? _____ YES _____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

40. Do you have any beliefs or life experiences that would prevent you from sitting in judgment of another? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

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41. Do you believe that the fact that someone has been arrested means that the person must be guilty? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

42. Would you believe or disbelieve the testimony of a defendant, simply because he has been accused of a crime? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

II. PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH LEGAL SYSTEM AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

43. Have you ever served on a trial jury or a grand jury? _____ YES _____ NO

a. If YES, please give details of which court: _____

b. If YES, what type of case? _____

c. If YES, did the jury deliberate to a final verdict? ____ YES ____ NO

44. Have you ever had your home, office, or any other premises be the subject of a search and seizure by any federal, state, or local agency or law enforcement department?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

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45. Have you, any member of your family, close relatives, or friends ever been subjected to service of a grand jury subpoena by any federal, state, or local agency or law enforcement department whatsoever? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

46. Have you ever provided information to, been a cooperating informant or witness for, or provided testimony for any federal, state, or local agency or law enforcement department?
☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

47. Have you ever contacted the United States Attorney's Office, County Prosecutor's Office, the police department, or any court, local, county, state or federal law enforcement agency to report a crime? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

48. Have you, any member of your family, or any close friend ever been the subject of an investigation by any agency of the United States government, or any state, county, or local government? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Juror No. _____

If YES, please explain: _____

49. Have you, any member of your family, or any close friend been arrested or convicted of a crime or offense? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

50. Have you, any member of your family, or any close friend ever been a defendant in a suit brought by the federal government or any state, county, or local government?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

51. Have you, anyone in your family, or any close friend ever been the victim of a crime or participated in a criminal case (other than a traffic violation) as a victim, a defendant, or a witness where the case went to court? ☐ YES ☐ NO

- a. If YES, do you believe that the case was handled appropriately?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

Juror No. _____

- b. Was there anything about that experience that would affect your ability to fairly and impartially evaluate the evidence in this case?

_____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

52. Do you have any opinions or beliefs concerning the criminal justice system, defendants, or criminal defense attorneys that would affect your ability to evaluate the evidence in this case fairly and impartially? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

53. Do you have any opinions or beliefs concerning the police, law enforcement officers or prosecutors that would affect your ability to evaluate the evidence in this case fairly and impartially? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

54. Are you or have you ever been an officer or employee of the United States government or any state, county, or local government? _____ YES _____ NO

- a. If YES, would the fact that the United States government is a party to this action in any way influence your judgment in regard to this case?

_____ YES _____ NO

Juror No. _____

If YES, please explain: _____

55. Have you, a family member, or a close friend ever studied or practiced law or worked in a law office? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

56. You may hear testimony in this case from law enforcement officers, such as federal agents and current and former police officers. Would you give the testimony of a law enforcement officer or official greater or lesser weight simply because of that person's position?

_____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

57. The Defendant and other potential witnesses were law enforcement officers at the time of the acts alleged in the Indictment.

a. Have you, any member of your family, or any close friend ever been employed by a law enforcement agency? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

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- b. Would your experience (or that of a relative or friend) cause you to sympathize with the Defendant or potential witnesses? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

- c. Would your experience (or that of a relative or friend) cause you to have bias against the Defendant or potential witnesses in this case because the Defendant and some of the potential witnesses were members of law enforcement? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

58. The Defendant was a police officer at the time of the acts alleged in the Indictment. Do you have positive or negative feelings that would make it difficult for you to evaluate such a police officer's testimony fairly and impartially? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

59. In this case, you may hear testimony from current or former law enforcement officers from the City of Bridgeton Police Department and the FBI.

- a. Have you ever had any personal experiences with these agencies, or with any other law enforcement agency? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain the nature and extent of your personal experiences with that agency: _____

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- b. Do you think that your experience with that agency will affect the way you view the evidence in this case? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain the nature and extent of your personal experiences with that agency: _____

60. Have you, a family member, or a close friend ever had any negative experiences involving police officers or been the subject of any adverse action taken by police officers?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

61. Have your feelings or opinions about police officers changed in any way in light of recent events reported in the media involving police officers? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

62. Are you, any member of your family, or any close friend affiliated, connected with, or a member of any crime commission or organization engaged in similar work or organizations that support or provide services for law enforcement agencies or officers?

____ YES ____ NO

Juror No. _____

If YES, please explain: _____

63. Are you or is any member of your family or any close friend affiliated, connected with, or a member of any organizations that advocate police reform? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

64. Have you, or has any family member or close friend, been a member of any group that lobbies or takes public positions on law enforcement issues? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

65. Would the fact that the federal government is a party to this action in any way influence your judgment in regard to this case? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

66. Have you, anyone in your family, or any close friend ever had any interaction or experience with the federal government or with state or local law enforcement officials that might affect your ability to be fair and impartial in this case? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

Juror No. _____

III. CASE BACKGROUND AND UNDERLYING CHARGES

67. Do you know, or have you had any dealings, personal or business, with John Grier, or with any relative or close friend of John Grier?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

68. Defendant John Grier is represented by attorney Stuart Alterman of the law firm of Alterman & Associates, LLC and attorney Stacy Ann Biancamano of the law firm of Biancamano Law, LLC. The Government is represented by the United States Attorney for the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey, who is Philip R. Sellinger. The conduct of the trial will be in the immediate charge of Assistant United States Attorneys Jason Richardson and Lindsey Harties. Also, at the Government's table or seated behind them during the trial will be their paralegal, Anne Defay and Shaunda McQueen, and Special Agent Brittney Ketler of the FBI.

a. Do you know or have you had any dealings, personal or business, with any of these individuals? ____ YES ____ NO

b. Have you or any relative or close friend ever been employed by or had dealings with any of the parties, entities, or individuals listed above? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES to either of the above questions, please explain: _____

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69. Have you, a family member, or a close friend had any experience with the following governmental entities, agencies, or law firms?

- ☐ United States Federal Government
- ☐ United States Department of Justice
- ☐ United States Attorney's Office
- ☐ Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI")
- ☐ Alterman & Associates, LLC
- ☐ Biancamano Law, LLC

If YES, please explain: _____

70. The following individuals or entities may be called as witnesses at trial or their names may come up during the trial. Please identify any name if you know, or if you have had any dealings, personal or business, with that person or entity.

- ☐ Michael Elton
- ☐ Brittney Ketler
- ☐ Anthony Bertolini
- ☐ Ronald Broomall
- ☐ Heittel Mora
- ☐ Rich Morris
- ☐ Donald Young

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☐ Jason Hovermann

☐ Paul Genovese

☐ Thomas Speranza

☐ Richard Zanni

☐ Michael Gaimari

☐ Lisa Ford

☐ Alan Campbell

☐ Marty Drummond

☐ Emmanuel Kapelsohn

If you identified any names, please explain your knowledge of or dealings with that person(s) or entity(ies): _____

71. This case involves alleged events occurring in and around the city of Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Have you ever lived or worked in Bridgeton? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

72. This case involves allegations that the Defendant authored and submitted a false police report in an attempt to cover up an instance of excessive force. Do you have such strong views on the subject of excessive force or police conduct that you could not render a fair verdict in this case? ____ YES ____ NO

Juror No. _____

If YES, please explain: _____

73. Do you have such strong views on the subject of honesty that you could not render a fair verdict in this case? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

74. Are you familiar with any newspaper, television, radio, Internet or other forms of news coverage regarding this case? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

IV. CIVIL RIGHTS

75. In recent months, you may have seen or heard media accounts concerning the federal government's involvement in state or local civil rights cases. Do you have any strong feelings or opinions about the federal government's involvement in state or local civil right cases?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

76. Do you feel that the federal government goes too far in protecting civil rights?

____ YES ____ NO

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If YES, please explain: _____

77. Do you feel that the federal government does not go far enough in protecting civil rights?

___ YES ___ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

78. If the Government fails to prove its case against the Defendant beyond a reasonable doubt, would you have any difficulty returning a not guilty verdict because the Defendant allegedly violated the Victim's civil rights? ___ YES ___ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

V. EXCESSIVE FORCE

79. This case also involves allegations of violence, specifically, a physical assault where the Defendant, a police officer, allegedly sprayed the Victim with pepper spray several times and physically assaulted the Victim by shoving him in the chest while the Victim was handcuffed.

- a. Will the fact that this case involves violence impact on your ability to fairly and impartially judge the facts in this case? ___ YES ___ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

Juror No. _____

b. Have you, any member of your family, or any close friend ever been a victim of a violent crime? ____ YES ____ NO

i. If YES, has your experience, or the experience of your family member or close friend, of being a victim of a violent crime caused you to have a particular opinion about people charged with committing violent crimes?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

ii. If YES, will you be able to fairly and impartially judge the facts in this case in spite of your experience, or the experience of your family member or close friend, as a victim of a violent crime? ____ YES ____ NO

If NO, please explain: _____

80. Have you or has a close family member or close friend ever been the victim of excessive force or police brutality? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

81. Have you had any encounters with law enforcement officers that left you with a strong positive or negative opinion of law enforcement? ____ YES ____ NO

Juror No. _____

If YES, please explain: _____

82. Do you think that law enforcement officers do such a difficult job that it is unfair for their actions to be judged? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

83. Are there any circumstances that would justify a police officer using excessive force?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

84. Do you believe that there are circumstances under which police officers do not have to obey the law like everyone else? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

85. Would you have any reluctance to judge the actions of a police officer accused of using excessive force or obstructing justice? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

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86. Do you understand that even if a person has been arrested, that they still have certain rights—including the right to not have law enforcement officers use excessive physical force against them? ____ YES ____ NO

a. If YES, do you have strong feelings about that? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

87. You will hear evidence that the Victim was under the influence of alcohol at the time that the Defendant sprayed him with mace. Would the knowledge of this fact impact your ability to be a fair and impartial judge of the facts in this case? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

88. Do you have any strong feeling about individuals that drive a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol that would effect your ability to be a fair and impartial judge of the facts in this case? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

89. Do you think law enforcement officers should be allowed to use force against an individual simply because they operated a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol? ____ YES ____ NO

Juror No. _____

If YES, please explain: _____

90. Do you understand that even if a person is intoxicated and not threatening, that they still have certain rights—including the right to not have law enforcement officers use excessive physical force against them? ____ YES ____ NO

a. If YES, do you have strong feelings about that? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

91. Do you think that law enforcement officers should be allowed to use force against a person who either is not a threat or is no longer posing a threat? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

92. If the Government proves its case against the Defendant beyond a reasonable doubt, would you have any difficulty returning a guilty verdict because the Defendant was a law enforcement officer at the time of the offense? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

Juror No. _____

VI. PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

93. Would you tend to believe someone or not believe someone because of that person's ethnic background, race, sex, religion, occupation, or economic status? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

94. Do you feel any greater degree of sympathy with either side of this criminal case?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

95. Is there any extraordinary personal or business situation, or other distinct hardship, which makes it impossible for you to sit on this jury? ____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

96. Do you have any medical condition that would make it impossible for you to sit on this jury?

____ YES ____ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

97. Do you have any difficulty reading, speaking, or understanding English?

____ YES ____ NO

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If YES, please explain: _____

98. Do you think you may know or be familiar with this Defendant or his family or friends?

___ YES ___ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

99. Can you think of any reason, even if we have not covered it in these questions, why you would

not be able to render a fair and impartial verdict in this case? ___ YES ___ NO

If YES, please explain: _____

PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOUR JUROR NUMBER IS PRINTED AT THE TOP OF EACH PAGE AND PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME BELOW:

SIGNATURE

DATE

Juror No. _____

EXPLANATION SHEET

[illegible]

Juror No. _____

[illegible]